

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 102532
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DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM: EREHFELD
APPROVED BY EUR/RPM: SJLEDOGAR
OASD/ISA: COL. PFEIFFER
DASD/A: MR. COOKE
IO/IBC/BA: MR. MCCORMICK
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USNATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, NATO, AORG

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INCREASE IN REPRESENTATION
ALLOWANCES OF NATO UNCLASSIFIED STAFF

REF: USNATO 3793, DTG 132001Z APR 78

1. WE CONSIDER FOLLOWING POINTS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE:

(A) WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO ACCEPT NOTION THAT REPRESENTATION ALLOWANCES FORM PART OF NATO/IS MEMBERS' GROSS COMPENSATION TO BE USED AS THEY SEE FIT. NATO BASIC SALARIES ARE MORE THAN ADEQUATE, AND IN SOME CASES EXHORBITANT ACCORDING TO U.S. STANDARDS. THESE POINTS SHOULD BE GIVEN SUBSTANTIAL WEIGHT AS LONG AS WE CONTRIBUTE 24.2 PERCENT OF NATO BUDGET.

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PAGE 02 STATE 102532

(B) APPROPRIATED FUNDS MUST BE ACCOUNTED FOR. AS INDICATED ABOVE, 24.2 PERCENT OF THE FUNDS USED BY NATO ARE IN THAT CATEGORY. THUS, ALL OFFICERS SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT VOUCHERS TO SUPPORT USE OF REPRESENTATION ALLOWANCES AND REIMBURSEMENT NEED OF THE ALLOWANCE. WITHOUT VOUCHERS, WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER ALLOWANCES

ARE ADEQUATE, WHETHER THEY ARE ALREADY EXCESSIVE, OR
WHETHER INCREASES ARE JUSTIFIED.

(C) WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO GIVE ANY CONSIDERATION TO
ARBITRARILY INCREASING ALLOWANCES IN ACCORD WITH A GENERAL
COST OF LIVING OR RATE OF INFLATION INDEX. COSTS OF ENTER-
TAINMENT OR OTHER FORMS OF REPRESENTATION MIGHT VARY
ACCORDING TO WHOLLY OR PARTIALLY INDEPENDENT FACTORS.
INCREASES MUST BE JUSTIFIED BY NEED.

2. BECAUSE IT MAY TAKE SOME TIME TO REACH FULL AGREEMENT
ON VOUCHERS, WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT AT THIS TIME
MISSION APPROACH AS OUTLINED IN SUBPARAS 12 A, B, AND C
WITH ONE QUARTER OF THE IS PROPOSAL AS A MAXIMUM. IF
ANALYSIS OF VOUCHERS SHOWS THAT ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCES
MAY BE REQUIRED, WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL
INCREASES AT THAT TIME.

3. WE ALSO AGREE WITH COMMENTS IN SUBPARAS 12 E AND F.

4. RE SUBPARA 12 D, DOD ADVISES THAT THE OFFICIAL
REPRESENTAION FUNDS ALLOCATED BY DOD TO THE DEFENSE
ADVISER, USNATO, FOR USE BY THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
GENERAL FOR DEFENSE SUPPORT ARE EXPENDED ONLY ON A
VOUCHERED BASIS WITH ADEQUATE JUSTIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE OSD OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION FUND GUIDELINES.
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PAGE 03 STATE 102532

HEREAFTER, THE DEFENSE ADVISER IS AUTHORIZED TO PROCESS
CHARGES TO SUCH DOD FUNDS ONLY UPON CERTIFICATION BY
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DEFENSE SUPPORT
THAT THE REPRESENTATIONAL FUNDS PROVIDED HIM BY THE
NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF HAVE BEEN SPENT FOR THE PURPOSES
OUTLINED IN THE OSD OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION FUND
GUIDELINES, OR THAT THEY HAVE BEEN VOUCHERED BY NATO,
AND ARE EXHAUSTED.

CHRISTOPHER

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